

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) ~~In a computer system including a host computer, a disk drive host interface and a disk drive having a disk storage medium with a first range of disk drive host interface addressable locations, a~~ A method for installing a mailbox file in a disk drive associated with the disk storage medium, the installation method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a disk drive access key from an access key server, ~~the access key being generated by the access key server as a function of~~ based at least in part on an identifying characteristic of the a disk drive;

creating a mailbox file stored in the first range of at least one host interface addressable locations of the disk drive using the disk drive access key, the mailbox file being executable under control of the disk drive ~~obtained from the access key server;~~ and

notifying the disk drive of ~~a~~ the at least one host interface addressable location of the mailbox file in the first range of addressable locations, wherein the disk drive can perform an executable function characterized by contents of the mailbox file.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to of claim 1, wherein the function is used to access mailbox file is associated with a second range of addressable storage locations on a disk storage medium of the disk drive that are not disk drive host interface addressable and that are contained on the disk storage medium.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to of claim 2, wherein the ~~access key is required for an application program to further comprising:~~ accessing the second range of addressable storage locations via the mailbox file using the disk drive access key.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~In a computer system including a host computer, a disk drive host interface and a disk drive having a disk controller, a~~A method for accessing using a mailbox file ~~stored in a disk drive associated with a first range of disk drive host interface addressable locations, the method comprising the steps of:~~

~~recognizing~~receiving a command at a disk drive from a host operating system~~computer, the command referencing at least one in reference to the mailbox file associated with the first range of disk drive host interface addressable locations in which a mailbox file is stored; and~~

~~responding to the command by performing within the disk controller an executable function characterized by the contents of~~executing the mailbox file under control of the disk drive in response to the command.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The method according to of claim 4, wherein the ~~at least one first range of disk drive host interface addressable locations refers to~~ is a storage space allocated in at least one of location on a disk storage medium of the disk drive and a computer memory associated with the disk controller.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (New) A method for accessing hidden storage locations on a disk drive,  
the method comprising:

receiving a command at a disk drive from a host computer, the command  
referencing at least one host interface addressable location on a disk storage medium of the disk  
drive;

identifying at least one hidden storage location on the disk storage medium that is  
not host interface addressable, the at least one hidden storage location associated with the at least  
one host interface addressable location; and

storing data associated with the command received from the host computer in the  
at least one hidden storage location in response to the command.